

## 3 August 2022 Term 3 Week 2

Tena Koutou Parents, Caregivers & Whanau,

Week 2 and some amazing changes are on the horizon. We are excited as our construction work begins to take shape. However there is still a bit to go. We will keep whanau updated as it progresses.

### Construction.

Please remind whanau to take care if they intend on using the school at this time. There are cordoned off areas that must not be accessed by the public for safety reasons. The playground should be ready to use by next week however the new classrooms are at least 4 weeks away.

### Healthy Choices.

Part of our study this term is based on healthy choices and hauora. We are currently operating a snack bar with several options for students to choose. The point of this exercise is to assist students to make similar choices outside of school. Thank you to Whaea Heather and staff who are coordinating this incentive.

### Attendance.

A reminder that this is a hot topic for us at the Vale this term. Please help us by ensuring your child attends regularly. We are currently conducting home visits to whanau who are having difficulty getting students to kura. If you require support we ask whanau to please contact us.

### Monitoring & Isolation.

As usual, we are again keeping to Ministry guidelines regarding our Covid approach. If your child or a household member tests positive for Covid 19, all household members must isolate for **7 days**. We have also sent out on our website and Facebook page a guide for parents and caregivers of what to do should your child become a positive case or be exposed to a positive household member. Please read through these carefully as they will give advice on whether your child should attend school or not. These can be activated through the following:

**Merivale School website -**

<https://www.merivale.school.nz/>

**Merivale School Facebook page -**

<https://www.facebook.com/merivaleschool/>

**Orange Light Rules.** As a government organisation, Merivale School must follow MOE rules so please do not be offended if asked to abide by them. They are as follows:

- Please keep children at home if they are unwell. Should they arrive at school unwell we will be contacting caregivers to collect them.
- Safe hygiene practices must be followed when at school - washing hands regularly, using sanitiser on entry to the school and classes, coughing etiquette and distancing when possible.
- **All visitors**, including parents, caregivers and whanau, must check in on arrival. We are now allowing limited access to school by some of our external agencies.
- Face masks are to be worn by **all visitors on school grounds**.
- Students and staff **may** choose to wear masks.
- When dropping off or collecting children, parents and caregivers must wait in vehicles or if on foot, waiting at the front entry of the school **maintaining a safe distance**. Masks do not need to be worn at these times, only when entering the office.
- If you have any concerns in regard to a child's return, we encourage contact with the office.

Mauriora,  
Matua Tom

### Attendance

The attendance figures below are since the beginning of the term.

The overall average of our Kura since the beginning of Term 3 is 78%.

Our target this year is 90% across our kura.

We understand that there is genuine illness with some of our whanau and we thank you for keeping your child at home to get well. If your child is not unwell and does not have a genuine reason not to be at school please make sure you send them. The table below shows the attendance for each cohort. The challenge is for our Year 6 cohort to lift their attendance average.

Yr 0 79%   Yr 1 80%   Yr 2 80%   Yr 3 77%  
Yr 4 80%   Yr 5 78%   Yr 6 72%

## Sports News:

### Basketball:

Friday 5 August 22

Seniors vs Papamoa Primary  
Trustpower Arena, 4.45pm Court 5

Tuesday 9 August 22

Juniors draw not available yet

### Netball:

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August 22 at Tauranga Netball

Centre, Mt Maunganui.  
Merivale Magic vs Brookfield  
Court 2, 2.55pm

### Healthy Snacks.

This week as part of our inquiry around making wise food choices to fuel our bodies we have introduced a Healthy Snack Bar. The Snack Bar is open from 8.00-9.00 in the morning. If students do not have snacks for the 1.30pm eating time we have been encouraging them to come and put food items in a bag for them to eat later in the day. The Snack Bar has wise food choices, we are showing the children healthy food options. We would prefer they used the Healthy Snack Bar instead of bringing chips, biscuits and other food items that should only be eaten as sometimes food.

